



Rockville Reports

NOVEMBER 2016 • VOL. 62 #9



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How Did the Turtle Cross the Road? With Help from City Engineers

A Stormwater Management Pond Project Creates a Unique Challenge

You know about the chicken. But a recent stormwater management project presented City of Rockville engineers with a question, and a challenge, of a whole different animal.

Turtles in Watkins Pond were crossing the road to get to – yes – the other side. The challenge: Get them there safely.

“We are doing the stormwater pond retrofit project at Watkins Pond,” said Gabe Kosarek, the city’s project manager. “When they drained the pond they were going to be working in, the turtles began migrating.”

Their destination was across the nearby road to an adjacent pond that had not been drained. While this was a good thing, and meant the turtles wouldn’t have to be unearthed during the winter while they hibernated in the mud, it also presented a problem.

Unlike human pedestrians, turtles didn’t have crosswalks. And unlike frogs, fish and oth-



er animals, it takes 10-15 years for turtles to reach reproductive age, making them a more sensitive population than other wildlife.

A fellow city staff member suggested that Kosarek contact the Mid-Atlantic Turtle and Tortoise Society (MATTS; www.matts-turtles.org).

“It’s just a nice thing that the city was thinking about it,” said Ray Bosmans, a retired University of Maryland Extension specialist and president of MATTS.

Bosmans said that community members who see a turtle shouldn’t claim it as a pet, though the Maryland Department of Natural Resources has said it’s OK to move it to the adjacent pond.

Representatives of MATTS, whose mission includes placing displaced and unwanted turtles in “forever homes,” visited the site on two different occasions, helping a turtle cross the road on the first. On the second visit,

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A wreath laying is part of Rockville’s annual Veterans Day ceremony, Nov. 11 at Veterans Park.

Veterans Day Ceremony to Feature Rockville Resident and Army Reservist

Nov. 11 Ceremony Will Include Traditional Wreath Laying and Other Salutes

A Rockville veteran of the United States Marine Corps who now serves in the U.S. Army Reserve will be the featured speaker as the city honors veterans of our nation’s armed forces at 11 a.m. on Veterans Day, Friday, Nov. 11.

The ceremony, which is open to the public, will be held at Veterans Park, at the intersection of Route 28 and Rockville Pike. It will include a wreath laying and a military salute by the American Legion Post 86 Honor Guard.

Free parking for the ceremony will be available at the Sandy Spring Bank building, 611 Rockville Pike, between Fleet Street and Rockville Pike.

This year’s featured speaker is Command Sgt. Maj. Ross Bagwell, whose military career began when he enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1987. He served eight years in the Marines, 10

years in the Army National Guard and is in his 12th year in the Army Reserve, serving in the 2nd Battalion, 317th Regiment, a drill sergeant battalion in Lynchburg, Virginia. Bagwell attended the U.S. Army Command Sergeants’ Major Academy and has deployed to Europe, Africa and the Middle East. He has earned numerous awards and decorations, including the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal and Humanitarian Service Medal.

He lives in Rockville with his wife, Melanie, and works as a principal systems engineer for NASA/Science Systems and Applications, Inc.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/veterans day, email specialevents@rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8620. ✚

City Hall and Facilities to Close Several Days in Nov.

Rockville City Hall will be closed on Veterans Day, Election Day and Thanksgiving weekend and other city facilities will be closed or will operate on limited schedules.

Tuesday, Nov. 8: City Hall and the Rockville Senior Center will be closed. Croydon Creek Nature Center will be open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. All other city facilities will open as usual. For information about voting times and locations, early or absentee voting and more, visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/elections.

Friday, Nov. 11 (Veterans Day): City Hall, the Senior Center and Glenview Mansion will be closed. The F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre box office will be open 6-8 p.m. Croydon Creek Nature Center will be open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. All other city facilities will open as usual. Recycling and refuse will be collected as usual.

Thursday, Nov. 24

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Rockville Ranks Second in State for LGBT Support and Inclusivity

Rockville’s commitment to the health, welfare, safety and equality of its lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community has earned high marks from the Human Rights Campaign (HRC).

The fifth annual Municipal Equality Index scorecard (MEI), released Monday, Oct. 17, analyzes and rates 506 municipalities across the country, measuring them for the inclusivity of laws, policies and services for their LGBT communities.

Rockville received a score of 98 out of 100 on the

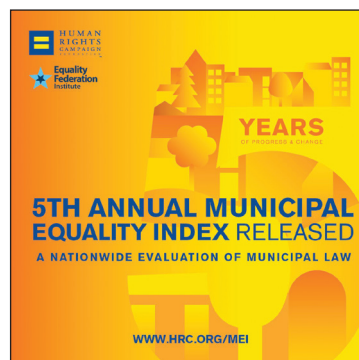
HRC’s MEI — second only to Baltimore out of the 10 Maryland towns and cities on the 2016 index.

Rockville’s 98 points represents a significant improvement over its 2015 score of 60 out of 100.

One of the Mayor and Council’s priority initiatives is to “Review existing codes and policies based on the scoring of the Human Rights Campaign’s Municipal Index and identify modifications to enhance LGBT nondiscrimination.” A list of the initiatives is on the City of Rockville’s

2016 MEI MARYLAND RANKINGS

Baltimore	100
Rockville	98
Towson	94
Frederick	86
College Park	83
Annapolis	65
Gaithersburg	59
Bowie	56
Columbia	53
Hagerstown	36



website, www.rockvillemd.gov/priorityinitiatives.

“Rockville is an amazing city” Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton said. “Our citizens

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In This Issue...

2 Updates on development around Rockville.

3 We want your ideas for the Fiscal Year 2018 budget.

4 Leaf collection, avoiding clogs and recycling.

5 Everything you need to know about fire hydrants.

7 A monthly calendar to help you plan your days.

8 Help our seniors by shoveling snow.

MAYOR & COUNCIL
111 Maryland Ave.
Rockville, Maryland
20850-2364

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Brightview at Rockville Town Center Breaks Ground

Construction of a 195-unit rental community for independent senior living and assisted living began earlier this year on a site north of Rockville Town Square. The development promises to add new activity in downtown Rockville north of Beall Avenue and will facilitate the extension of Maryland Avenue north to meet up with a new section of Dawson Avenue.



Graphic rendering looking southwest to the intersection of future extended Maryland and Dawson Avenue.

Several retail spaces are included in the project, including a restaurant, café, and general retail store along the Maryland Avenue frontage, all of which will be open to the public. Project completion is anticipated by the end of summer 2017.



View looking south along Maryland Avenue extended.

Development Applications Subject to Ex Parte Communications

Under Maryland law, decisions on quasi-judicial matters must be based on information provided in the public record (written or oral testimony). By this standard, no communication on active development review applications should be held outside of a public hearing between members of the city review authority and the public.

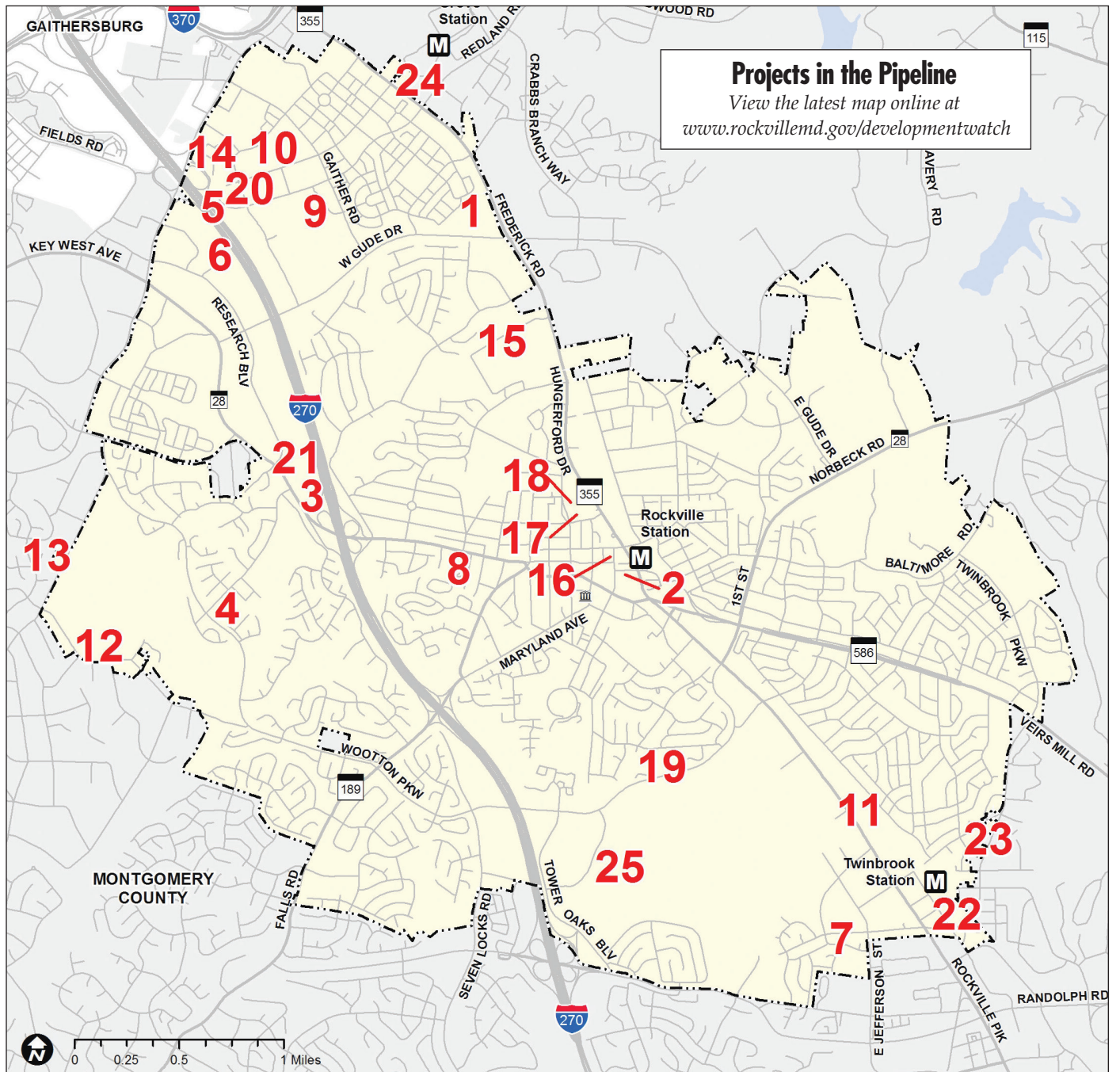
The city now maintains a list of development applications subject to limitations on ex parte communications on the "Development Watch" page at www.rockvillemd.gov/developmentwatch. The list is updated as new applications are received.

Know the Process, Stay Informed

The Rockville community is encouraged to take part in decisions about development projects in the city. Below are a few ways to stay informed about the process:

- Check the latest major planning applications at www.rockvillemd.gov/developmentwatch for status updates on projects in your neighborhood and throughout Rockville.
- Attend an area meeting led by project applicants to provide input on certain projects before consideration by city boards or commissions.
- Find meeting schedules, agendas and information packets for the Mayor and Council and all city boards and commissions at www.rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter.
- Call 240-314-8200 to ask about projects near you.

Connect with us on Social Media.



Major Development Review Applications

Pre-Application Submittals

These applications were recently submitted for pre-application review.

1. **45 W. Gude Drive (Rockville Mews):** Pre-application for a new 103-unit townhouse development. Case #PAM2015-00091
2. **50 Monroe Place:** Pre-application for a new 175-unit senior apartment development. Case #PAM2017-00096
3. **1251 W. Montgomery Ave.:** Pre-application for a proposed self-storage facility. Case #PAM2016-00093
4. **2401 Wootton Parkway (Rockshire Village Shopping Center):** Pre-application for a proposed 88-unit townhouse development. Case #PAM2016-00095
5. **Redland Boulevard at I-270:** Pre-application for a proposed self-storage facility. Case #PAM2016-00094

Applications Under Review

These applications are currently in the development review process.

6. **4 Research Place:** Level 1 site plan for a 88,000 square foot self-storage facility. Case #STP2016-00282
7. **216 Rollins Ave. (Chabad Isreali Center):** Major site plan amendment to allow for operation of a synagogue and ancillary uses within an existing building and revised days and hours of operation. Case #STP2016-00278
8. **500 West Montgomery Ave. (Chestnut Lodge):** Project plan amendment for a proposed six-unit townhouse development. Case #PJT2015-00005
9. **520-540 Gaither Road (Redland Corporate Center):** Level 2 site plan for a three-phase improvement/addition to an existing office park. Case #STP2016-00282
10. **701 King Farm Blvd. (Ingleside at King Farm):** Level 2 site plan for an addition to an existing continuing care retirement community. Case #STP2016-00285
11. **1450 Rockville Pike (BMW of Rockville):** Proposed consolidation and expansion of the service facility and structured parking. Case #STP2013-00165
12. **9701 Veirs Mill Road (The Village at Rockville):** Special exception and variance application for a proposed independent living building. Case #SPX2016-00390 and VAR2016-00057
13. **13890 Glen Mill Road:** Special exception and height waiver for a proposed (temporary) telecommunications tower. Case #SPX2017-00391 and VAR2017-00057

Completed Applications

These applications were recently approved and currently, or will soon be, under construction.

14. **5 Choke Cherry Road (Upper Rock District):** Site plan ap-

plication for development of 34,700 square feet of retail space at the Upper Rock District. Approved Feb. 10, 2016. Case #STP2015-00238

15. **51 Mannakee St. (Montgomery College - Student Services Center):** Mandatory referral submittal for construction of a new student service building. Approved Aug. 12, 2015. Case #STP2016-00263
16. **198 E. Montgomery Ave. (Duball Rockville):** Project plan application for an amendment to PDP1994-0001E to allow for the addition of 178 dwelling units to Block 2 and application of a currently approved nonresidential parking waiver to the new residential uses. Approved Dec. 8, 2014. Case #PJT2014-00003
17. **255 North Washington St. (Rockville Town Center, LLC):** Site plan application for a proposed mixed-use building with 275 dwelling units and approximately 6,000 square feet of street level commercial. Approved Oct. 22, 2014. Case #STP2014-00214
18. **285 North Washington St. (Brightview Rockville Town Square):** Site plan application for a 195-unit rental community for independent senior living and assisted living with street-level retail. Approved July 23, 2014. Case #STP2014-00189
19. **332 West Edmonston Drive (Elementary School #5):** Mandatory referral submittal for construction of a new elementary school. Approved Nov. 3, 2015. Case #STP2016-00264
20. **900/901 King Farm Blvd. (King Farm F6/F5):** Proposed developments of 53 and 76 residential townhouses. Approved Dec. 10, 2014. Case #STP2014-00217/STP2014-00216
21. **1401 Research Blvd.:** Level 2 site plan proposing a retail center with office. Approved June 8, 2016. Case #STP2016-00276
22. **1900 Chapman Ave.:** Major site plan amendment (STP2012-00112) to change from 339 multi-unit residential to 70 townhouse units. Approved March 23, 2016. Case #STP2015-00251
23. **12720 Twinbrook Parkway (Avalon Bay):** Site plan application for a proposed 240-unit multifamily residence. Approved Oct. 16, 2015. Case #STP2009-00008
24. **15931 Frederick Road:** Site plan application for a 425-unit multifamily development. Approved March 9, 2016. Case #STP2016-00267
25. **Tower Oaks - Preserve Parkway:** Project plan amendment to allow up to 375 residential units to replace 755,000 square feet of office under the Tower Oaks Planned Development. Approved Aug. 1, 2016. Case #PJT2016-00006



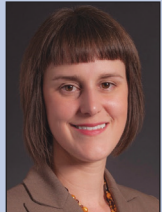
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Upcoming Meetings: Mondays, Nov. 14 and 21 at 7 p.m.

There is no drop-in session scheduled for November. The Mayor and Council will hold a public hearing at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 1 to solicit ideas for the Fiscal Year 2018 budget. See the article on this page.

Get Involved with the City

Stay informed of the business before city leaders and share your thoughts:

- **Follow the action in person:** Meetings are at 7 p.m. on most Mondays, at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., or follow from home on channel 11. Meetings are also available via live streaming, and on demand the day after the meeting, at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11.
- **Stop by a drop-in session:** The mayor and one councilmember meet with community members one Monday each month from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Find the drop-in schedule at www.rockvillemd.gov/mayorcouncil.
- **Speak at Community Forum** (up to three minutes): Community Forum is held during each Mayor and Council meeting. Priority is given to speakers who have signed up in advance by calling 240-314-8280 by 4 p.m. on the day of the meeting, and to those who are speaking on an agenda item.
- **Send an email** to mayorand

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Speak Now (and Later) About the Budget

Public Hearing and Web Provide Early Opportunities to Speak Out About the FY18 Budget

Community members will have an early opportunity to provide ideas for Rockville's Fiscal Year 2018 budget during a public hearing on Tuesday, Nov. 1.

This special Tuesday meeting of the Mayor and Council begins at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. It will gather input for the development of the operating budget and Capital Improvements Program for Fiscal Year 2018, which begins July 1.

Anyone wishing to testify, including representatives of the city's boards, commissions

BEGINNING OF THE BUDGET PROCESS

Public Hearing, 7 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 1 at City Hall.

and local nonprofits, should call 240-314-8280 before 4 p.m. on the date of the hearing to have their names placed on the speakers' list.

The city manager is scheduled to present the proposed budget during the Mayor and Council meeting on Monday, Feb. 27. Additional budget hearings are scheduled for Mayor and Council meetings

at 7 p.m. on Mondays, March 6, March 20 and April 3.

The budget hearings will be carried live on channel 11 on county cable systems, broadcast via live streaming at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11 and available a day after each hearing at www.rockvillemd.gov/videoon-demand/agendacenter.

Rockville's adopted operating budget for the current fiscal year totals \$126.3 million. The Mayor and Council are scheduled to adopt the FY 2018 budget in May.

For more information and a link to submit ideas for the budget, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget or call the Finance Department at 240-314-8400. ✚



State Could Choose Bus Rapid Transit Alternative by End of Year

Mayor and Council Briefed on Options

Rockville's Mayor and Council were updated by the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) in October on a study of bus rapid transit (BRT) alternatives being considered for Veirs Mill Road.

BRT is a transportation alternative where buses make fewer stops and have a designated lane, or priority ahead of cars, at signalized intersections in order to move faster, like light rail. The area the study covers is from the Rockville Metrorail Station to the Wheaton Metrorail Station, but also includes proposed service to the Rockville campus of Montgomery College. Three alternatives for the project are under

discussion.

The state hopes to determine a preferred alternative by the end of the year. The discussion covered several topics: how the service would operate, ridership potential, project costs and possible funding, service to Montgomery College, benefits to Rockville, property impacts, the project's land-use and economic development potential, and when the county anticipates it will take a position.

The next meeting of the Mayor and Council is scheduled for Nov. 14.

Learn more about BRT on Montgomery County's webpage, www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brt. ✚

Holiday Shopping?

Save Money While Supporting Your Community.

Buy a Rockville Rewards card and get discounts at more than 100 Rockville area businesses. All proceeds support one of more than 30 participating local nonprofits.



www.rockvillerewards.com



STAY INFORMED: The Mayor and Council meeting schedule and agendas can be found at www.rockvillemd.gov/mayorcouncil. Staff reports with background information are included with the agendas, which are posted several days before each meeting. Sign up at www.rockvillemd.gov/notifyme to receive an email or text message when a new agenda is posted.



Turtle Crossing

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there were no turtles to move and the migration appeared to have ended – possibly due to cooler temperatures limiting the turtles' movement.

Engineers decided to forgo closing lanes to calm traffic and provide the turtles safe harbor, but went ahead with temporary turtle crossing signs that will remain in place through this fall's construction.

In addition to the signs, staff placed filter logs against the curb to aid the turtles in climbing up and out of the roadway. Normally used to prevent sediment runoff, the mesh surface of the logs gives the turtle's claws traction needed to climb into the grass.

Construction, which is intended, in part, to remove sediment buildup that has reduced the pond's ability to slow water flow and reduce pollution from a 300-acre drainage area, is expected to continue until spring 2017, weather permitting. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/watkinspondproject.

The project has spawned a new relationship for city engineers, Kosarek said.

"We will be working with MATTS in the future to try to have a more controlled migration of turtles on upcoming projects to reduce the potential for this sort of problem," he said.

Learn more in the "Rock 11 Now" report at www.rockvillemd.gov/youtube. Search for "turtles." ✚

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- council@rockvillemd.gov.
- **Testify at a hearing** or in writing to cityclerk@rockvillemd.gov or by mail to the City Clerk's Office, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.
- **Volunteer to be on a board or commission** at www.rockvillemd.gov/boards-commissions. (Learn more below.) Find other ways to give your time and talents to your community at www.rockvillemd.gov/volunteer.

Boards and Commissions

Meetings are held at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., unless otherwise noted. Please check www.rockvillemd.gov/boards-commissions for the latest on cancellations, rescheduling and contact information.

- **Nov. 2 Sign Review Board** 9 a.m.
- **Nov. 2 Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee** 7 p.m.
- **Nov. 3, 10, 17 Development Review Committee** 9 a.m.
- **Nov. 3 Human Services Advisory Commission** 6:30 p.m.
- **Nov. 3 Environment Commission** 7 p.m.
- **Nov. 5 Board of Appeals** 9 a.m.*
- **Nov. 9, 30 Planning Commission** 7 p.m.*
- **Nov. 10 Rockville Sister City Corporation Board** 7 p.m.
- **Nov. 15 Rockville Seniors Inc.** 1 p.m. Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.
- **Nov. 16 Cultural Arts Commission** 7-8:30 p.m.
- **Nov. 17 Senior Citizens Commission** 1 p.m. Rockville Senior Center.
- **Nov. 17 Historic District Commission** 7:30 p.m.*
- **Nov. 22 Traffic and Transportation Commission** 7:30 p.m.

*Televised on Rockville 11.

Anyone interested in serving on a board or commission may write to the Mayor and Council at 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, call 240-314-8280 or fill out and submit an expression of interest form at www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions.

Vacancies

The Mayor and Council are seeking applicants for the following boards and commissions:

- Animal Matters Board (1)
- Board of Appeals (1 alternate)
- Compensation Comm. (2)
- Environment Commission (2)
- Ethics Commission (1)
- Historic District Comm. (1 alt.)
- Human Rights Commission (3)
- Human Services Advisory Comm. (1)
- Landlord Tenant Affairs Comm. (1 rep.; 1 alt.)
- Planning Commission (3)
- Senior Citizens Comm. (2)
- Sign Review Board (1 alt.)
- Traffic and Transportation Comm. (2)

For more, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions or call 240-314-8280.

Mayor and Council to Discuss Bicycle Plan Update in December

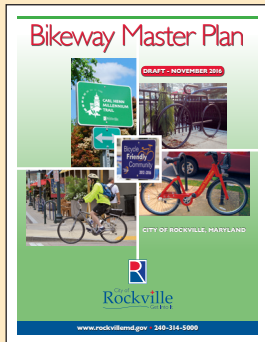
The Planning Commission approved an update to the Bikeway Master Plan, Sept. 28, recommending it be adopted by the Mayor and Council as part of the city's Comprehensive Master Plan (CMP).

The Mayor and Council will receive a presentation on the draft on Monday, Nov. 21, with a public comment period expected in December. Dates for the public to provide testimony will be announced soon.

The Bikeway Master Plan was last updated in 2004 and is currently part of the CMP. Numerous recommendations from the update have been implemented since 2004, including completion of the Carl Henn Millennium Trail. The new draft plan aims to build on that success and establish a recreational transportation network to make Rockville more inviting for bicycles and other types of transportation, including commuting and shopping.

The new plan will act as a starting point to develop specific bicycle-related capital projects to expand the existing bicycle network, improve safety and expand connections to all parts of the city.

To read the new plan and find more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/bikewaymasterplan.



November City Hall Closures

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(Thanksgiving Day) and Friday, Nov. 25: City Hall, the Senior Center, Glenview Mansion and the Fitzgerald Theatre box office will be closed. Recycling and refuse normally collected on Thursdays will be collected Friday, Nov. 25.

Facilities that are closed Nov. 24 and open for the following hours Nov. 25:

- Croydon Creek Nature Ctr. (10 a.m.-2 p.m.);
- Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm and Twinbrook community centers (10 a.m.-6 p.m.).
- Rockville Swim and Fitness Center north pool and fitness room (6 a.m.-9 p.m.). South pool closed.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter for more information.

Fitzgerald Theatre tickets are always available at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre.

For more information on recycling and refuse, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse, or call 240-314-8568.

Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov or by calling 240-314-5000. ❖

Avoid a Clog, Fight the FOG (Fats, Oils and Greases)

When the Thanksgiving feast is finished, don't pour fats, oils and grease (FOG) down the drain.

FOG poured down sinks solidifies when deposited into sewer lines, trapping solids and forming hard deposits that can cause blockages in pipes. Blockages can lead to sewer backups and leaking pipes, which can mean costly damage to city infrastructure and private property.

Follow these tips to help prevent clogs and blockages:

- Avoid placing food that contains FOG in the garbage disposal.
- Scrape food and grease into the garbage before washing dishes.
- Use a paper towel or napkin to absorb cooking oil or grease before washing dishes.
- Pour FOG into an empty can, let it cool to solidify and dispose of it as refuse.

For more information, call the Environmental Management Division at 240-314-8870. ❖

Clap Your Hands for Recycling More Than Just Bottles and Cans

Single-Stream Program Recycles a Wide Variety of Items

America Recycles Day is Tuesday, Nov. 15. Rockville offers many ways to recycle.

While most people think of recycling bottles, cans, newspapers and cardboard, many other items can also go into the city's single-stream recycling bins.

The city no longer accepts materials for recycling that are in plastic bags or that contain plastic bags. This includes plastic bags grouped into one bag and placed in the cart, as well as bags used to bundle other materials for recycling. The change was made due to costly damage that the bags were causing to processing and sorting equipment. Look for grocery and retail stores with plastic bag collection bins near their entrances. Find a drop-off location that accepts bags for recycling at <http://bit.ly/bagrecycling>.

The city accepts unsorted recyclable material through single-stream recycling, which allows for all recyclables to be placed in the same recycling cart.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse for a complete list of accepted materials. Call 240-314-8568 or email refuse@rockvillemd.gov to start service, get a larger recycling cart, schedule a special pickup, report a missed collection, verify collection schedules or ask a question.

For more information on America Recycles Day, visit americarecyclesday.org. ❖

Rockville Recycles

- Newspapers, bottles, cans (including empty aerosol cans) and cardboard.
- Rigid plastics, including toys, buckets, flower pots, laundry baskets and clothes hangers.
- Wax-coated milk and juice boxes, all junk mail (including those with plastic windows), catalogs and pizza boxes with minor grease.
- Special collections: Electronics (televisions, computers, printers, small electronics, cords and cables, etc.) and large metal items (refrigerators, grills, lawn mowers, etc.). Call 240-314-8568 or email refuse@rockvillemd.gov to schedule a special pickup.

Winter is coming! And snow!

Is your Alert Rockville account current?

Don't have an Alert Rockville account?

Get one at www.rockvillemd.gov/alerts.

Receive public safety, traffic and severe weather notifications from the City of Rockville.

'Leaf' It to Rockville

Fall Leaf Collection Continues into December

'Rockville continues two rounds of vacuuming leaves from neighborhood curbs in November and December.

Rake leaves next to, but out of, the roadway. Leaves should be raked no earlier than one week prior to the collection date to avoid grass damage or fire hazards.

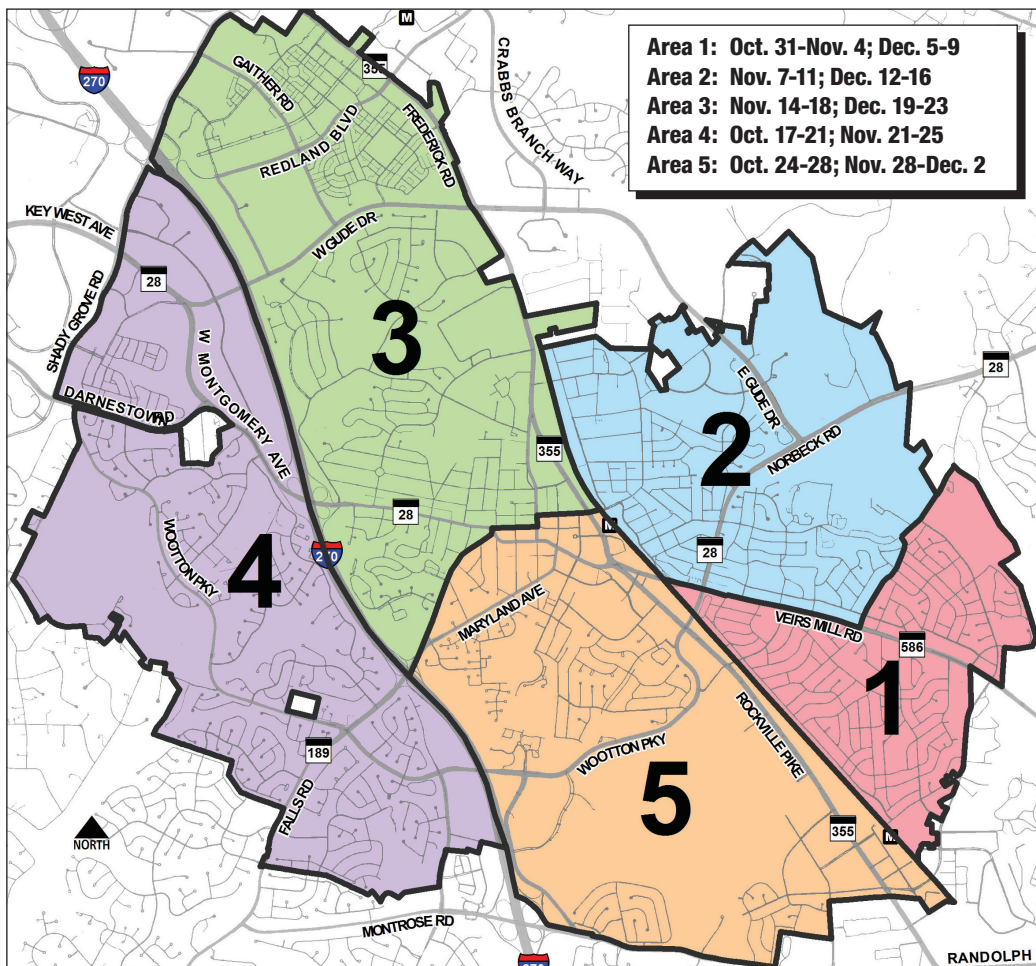
An interactive map at www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection allows residents to input their address to learn when their leaves will be collected.

DO: Place leaves at the curb by 6 a.m. on the collection dates. Sticks and all other objects must be removed from leaf piles.

DO NOT: Pile leaves in bike lanes or where vehicles are parked. Vehicle exhaust can ignite dry leaves.

DO: Avoid street parking near leaf piles or close to other vehicles during your collection week so that leaf collection trucks can access leaf piles.

DO NOT: Dump



leaves, grass clippings or other yard waste into storm drains, along stream banks or directly into streams. Although yard waste is biodegradable, leaves can clog storm drains or cause blockages that contribute to localized

flooding. Decomposing leaves can also release nutrients, stimulating algae blooms that kill fish.

DO: Use biodegradable paper lawn bags or 32-gallon trash cans to set leaves out with yard waste on your collection day, after

fall leaf collection ends.

DO NOT: Collect leaves in plastic garbage bags.

DO: Use alternative methods for disposing of leaves, such as mulching or composting. This saves collection and disposal costs. ❖

MUNICIPAL BROADCAST NETWORK

COMCAST
997

RCN
1057

Rockville 11 is Ready for its Close-up

The Municipal Broadcast Network is now in HD.

Learn more at www.connectmontgomery.com. Watch Rockville 11 online at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11.

WHAT IS IT WE'RE CELEBRATING THIS MONTH?... November is packed full of recognitions. Let's run down a few. Not only is it Thanksgiving this month on Nov. 24, it's also Native American Heritage Month, a national recognition that celebrates the first Americans (read more at nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov). Nov. 14-18 is American Education Week, which can trace its origins back to 1919. National Family Week, Nov. 20-26, began in Canada, but is also recognized in countries around the world.

Hearing Set for Proposed Floodplain Ordinance Revisions

The Mayor and Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, Nov. 21 on proposed changes to the city's floodplain management ordinance that would create a more rigorous process for approving construction in the floodplain and would remove previously allowed exemptions to what can be built there.

The hearing will be held during the Mayor and Council meeting, which begins at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave.

The floodplain is land near a stream that could be inundated by a so-called 100-year flood – a flood that has a 1 percent chance of occurring in any given year. The city's ordinance, which bans new development in the floodplain, was last updated in 1992.

Changes in federal and state regulations require that it be revised.

The proposed revisions include a new Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requirement that property owners in the floodplain obtain a permit allowing the city to set conditions on new construction, review and approve construction plans, inspect construction and obtain FEMA-required documentation. They also will eliminate previously allowed exemptions from floodplain regulation for public facilities and projects, utilities, fences and play or seating equipment.

To learn more and find an online map to assist homeowners at www.rockvillemd.gov/floodplain. ❖



A new chemical feed system at the city's water treatment plant will add ferric chloride to coagulate organic compounds for removal from the river water.

Rockville's Water Passes the Test(s) Lead and Copper Testing and New Technology Ensure Safe Drinking Water

Recent test results once again confirm that Rockville's drinking water is clean and safe. The city received results in late September from its testing for lead and copper in tap water samples taken from 33 addresses within the city.

There was no lead detected, except in two samples. Those two samples showed lead levels far below where the Environmental Protection Agency takes regulatory or remedial action. The tests also showed copper levels far below the EPA action level.

These EPA-required tests are performed every three years and are in addition to daily and hourly testing that the city performs at its water treatment plant on the Potomac River. Those tests are reported monthly to the Maryland Department of the

Environment.

Get a closer look at a new cleansing process that the water treatment plant is performing to further improve the high quality of Rockville's water in the "Rock 11 Now" report at www.rockvillemd.gov/you-tube. Search "New Testing."

Rockville is investing more than \$1.5 million each year to replace decades-old water pipes, allowing the city's water system to maintain adequate pressure for fire hydrants and deliver clean water to the community.

Learn more about Rockville's drinking water at www.rockvillemd.gov/water and in the city's Annual Drinking Water Report at www.rockvillemd.gov/annualwaterquality2016. ❖



REDI GRANT HELPS GROW LOCAL BUSINESS...

KNG Health Consulting is the first recipient of a grant from the Rockville Business Expansion Fund, which is designed to support existing Rockville businesses that strengthen the local economy by expanding operations and generating jobs in high-growth industries. Using the grant, KNG Health added square footage to its operation and plans to hire up to four new employees. From right to left: Rockville Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton; Laurie Boyer, Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI) executive director; Sheila Sankaran and Lane Koenig, KNG Health Consulting; and Heather Gramm, Maryland Department of Commerce.

Learn How to Mean Business in Rockville Register Now for the Rockville Business Academy

FREE PROGRAM

**8 a.m.-noon, Thursday, Nov. 17
Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Drive**

City staff will lead sessions on:

- Planning for the future.
- Doing business with the city.
- Making your business green.
- Keeping your business and employees safe.
- How to partner with the city.
- Growing your business.
- Reaching new markets.

Offered through Rockville's Public Information and Community Engagement Division in partnership with the Rockville Chamber of Commerce; Rockville Economic Development, Inc.; and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Montgomery County. Hispanic business owners are especially encouraged to attend.

Register and learn more at bit.ly/RkvBiz2016.

Facts About Fire Hydrants

What's with the Colors? The Poles? The Flushing?

They're short, different colors and sometimes steal an otherwise perfect parking spot.

Rockville residents might not give much thought to fire hydrants. But the city spends a good deal of time and money ensuring hydrants are in working order, so that if we need them, they're ready. They're part of a city water system that includes nearly 174 miles of water pipes, 4,168 valves and 1,407 fire hydrants.

Rockville is investing more than \$1.5 million each year to replace water pipes that are 50 years or older, so

that the city's water system maintains adequate pressure for fire hydrants and continues delivering clean water to the community.

Here are a few questions, answered, about Rockville's hydrants:

Why are they painted different colors?

The colors indicate the rate of water flow through the hydrant. It is important for firefighters to know the flow so that they can quickly determine which hydrants to connect their hoses to.

"The ones that are low flow, they need to know that

continued on pg. 7...

Home Rehabilitation Grants Available

The city helps low- and moderate-income homeowners make repairs to their homes through the Single-Family Rehabilitation program, a forgivable loan program funded by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

Typical repairs covered with CDBG funding include roof replacement, plumbing and electrical upgrades, furnace replacement and kitchen and bathroom repairs. The city has approximately \$164,000 to contribute to projects in the next year.

Applicants are assisted on a first-come, first-served basis, with priority given to homes with the most critical needs for improvements to ensure health and safety. The program will cover a portion or all of the repair costs, typically up to \$25,000, depending on household income.

For more information, eligibility criteria and the application form, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/singlefamilyrehab or contact Rockville's rehabilitation specialist, Martin Dasler, at 240-314-8208 or mdasler@rockvillemd.gov.

'Buy This Chair' Campaign Seeks a Seat for Seniors

New curtains on the stage, new paint on the walls and a new floor — but will the Senior Center's active adults visiting its Carnation Room have a comfortable place to sit? With help from Rockville Seniors, Inc., and a little fundraising from the public, the answer may be yes.

"Our biggest challenge is refurbishing the room — it is important that we have tables and chairs that are sturdy, comfortable and functional," Gail Sherman, president of Rockville Seniors, Inc., said in a recent senior center newsletter.

Chairs meeting those criteria cost \$250 a piece, Sherman told Rockville 11. The total cost for the 200 chairs needed is \$50,000. Donors who contribute \$350 can have a chair named for them.

To donate, contact the Senior Center at 240-314-8800. Checks can be made out to RSI and mailed to: The Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, Rockville, MD 20850.



Preserving the Postal and Pastoral Past

The historic mural that greets visitors at the Rockville City Police Department headquarters, at 2 W. Montgomery Ave., looks like new thanks to a recent conservation project.

Rockville inherited the mural in 2008 when the federal government transferred the building to the city at no charge with the condition that it be used for homeland security and public safety purposes. The city added an annex building and opened the new police headquarters in 2012.

The 1940 mural of Sugarloaf Mountain by Judson Smith adorns the lobby wall above the post office boxes that are a reminder of the building's original use as post office, which opened in 1939. The mural was restored to its original beauty by Hartmann Fine Art Conservation Services in October.

Get a closer look at how they completed this delicate project in the Rockville 11 video at www.rockvillemd.gov/youtube. Search for "mural."



POPULAR ROCKVILLE 11 YOUTUBE VIDEOS FOR NOVEMBER: Age in Place Community Forum; Coffee with a Cop Day with RCPD; RVFD Thanks Rockville for its New ALS Chase Car; Walk To School Day 2016 in Rockville; Greater Washington Immigration Film Fest 2016; Water Lead New Testing. Find these and more at www.youtube.com/cityofrockville.



Seed to Feed Our Feathered Friends

Croydon Creek Nature Center is for the birds, or, more accurately, feeding them. And other wildlife, of course.

Order forms for the center's annual feed sale will go online, be sent via mail and be available at the center in the first week of November. The order deadline is Monday, Nov. 28. The seed will be ready for pickup at the nature center from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 10. Seeds are only available by pre-order.

Black oil sunflower seed, nyjer, patio blend, split peanuts, suet cakes and more will be on offer.

Not only does the seed draw native wildlife to yards for viewing, it's also a valuable food source for animals during the harsh winter months.

Croydon Creek offers the seed sale with generous support from the Wild Bird Center in Rockville.

For more information, call 240-314-8770 or email ccnc@rockvillemd.gov. Check the nature center's webpage for seed sale forms at www.rockvillemd.gov/croydoncreek.

Winter Recreation Guide to Come Out This Month

Look out for Rockville's latest 2016-2017 "Winter Guide," which lists all the programs, events, classes and fun available from the city's Recreation and Parks Department.

Whether it's preschool programs, sports, arts, dance or getting fit, Rockville has something for you and your kids to take part in.

The guide will be available in print and online by Nov. 17. General registration for programs begins Dec. 1.

Find the current recreation guide at www.rockvillemd.gov/guide and register through Rock Enroll (rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov).



Peerless Rockville honors the best of today and looks back to 1966 as it celebrates the

37th ANNUAL PEERLESS AWARDS and the

50th Anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act

Join the celebration, with music, hors d'oeuvres and beverages, as Peerless honors achievements in historic preservation and projects of excellence in Rockville.

**Friday, Nov. 18, from 7-10 p.m.
Glenview Mansion
at Rockville Civic Center Park
603 Edmonston Drive**

**Tickets: \$40/Peerless members,
\$50/nonmembers**

Glenview Gallery to Feature 'Unusual' Works of Mixed Media, Sculpture

James Mabry to Play at Gallery Opening

Come experience the unusual at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery, which will hold its November opening reception from 1:30-3:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 6.

Works on display are the mixed media of Theresa Martin, Meg Schaap and Nancy McNamara, and the small sculptures of John Mors. Each artist combines materials in a wide range of styles and techniques. Their work veers from fun

and quirky to sober and thought-provoking.

The reception will feature a musical performance by blues guitarist and vocalist **James Mabry** (pictured at right) at 2 p.m. in the mansion living room. Mabry, described as "the real deal," delivers the lilting sounds of the Mississippi Delta and the beat of urban juke joints, along with a history of this unique American style of music.



The art gallery is open 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, and 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday. The event is free to attend.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/glenviewgallery for more information. ✚



Meg Schaap, mixed media



Theresa Martin, mixed media

Big Green Ogres, Love, Laughter, and 'All Things November' at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre

The **Wine and Improv Series** continues with a night of fun and games at the Glenview Mansion Cottage, 7 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 10, led by a theater professional.

Dive into the world of improv theater with no experience necessary. It's an evening of laughs (facilitated by a glass or two of wine). Participants must be 21 or older to take part. (Bring your ID.) The workshop includes one drink ticket. Additional wine and beer are for sale.

Tickets are \$35 per person and \$60 per couple.

Performances of **"Shrek the Musical"** shows there's more than meets the eye to the story of everyone's favorite ogre in this Tony Award-winning take on the Oscar-winning Dreamworks Animation film. All the beloved characters you know are brought to life on stage. Performances are Nov. 4, 5, 11, and 12 at 8 p.m., and Nov. 6 and 13 at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$22, or \$20 for seniors (62-plus) and students.

The Heart of Maryland Chorus will present a spin on the classic, fractured fairy tale with **"Hansel and Gretel — a Modern, Musical Tale,"** 1 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 12. The



show celebrates Hansel and Gretel's strength and spirit over the malevolence of the world around them. Directed by Karen Collins, with guest stars, the Greg Harrison Jazz Band.

Tickets are \$12, general admission.

"Love & Laughter," featuring Mikhail Svetlov, is this November's presentation from the Russian folk instruments orchestra, the Washington Bailalaika Society at 8 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 19.

Tickets are \$25; \$20 for seniors; \$15 for students; children under 12 are free.

"All Things November," performed by The Rockville Concert Band, will depict the holidays and events of the last full month of fall, as conducted by Music Director Douglas Pierce. The performance is 3-4 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 20. No tickets are required, but a \$5 donation is suggested. ✚



Washington Bailalaika Society

International Night Moves to Bigger Venue

International Night returns this year, only bigger and better. The event has been so popular, it's moved from Lincoln Park Community Center to a larger venue — the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

Tickets are available now for this free, Friday, Nov. 16 event, which will feature performers drawn from Rockville's diverse cultures, information tables and, following the performance, a tasting of ethnic and cul-

tural food in the F. Scott's social hall.

The event begins at 6 p.m. with the Mayor and Council welcoming the audience with a special recognition of new U.S. citizens.

Theater doors open at 5:30 p.m., performances begin at 6 p.m. and the tasting starts at 7.

For more information and to get your free ticket, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/internationalnight. ✚

Time to Fall Backward and Check Your Smoke Detector

The time is nearly here for daylight saving time to end and clocks to be wound back an hour. You'll probably want to do that before you go to bed, Nov. 5. It's also a good time to check your home's smoke alarms — it's the best way of notifying you and your family of a fire.

Battery-operated smoke alarms are required to be replaced every 10 years from the date of manufacture to comply with a 2013 state law. The devices should also be tested at least once a month.

The state law calls for older smoke alarms to be replaced with new, sealed, long-life battery-powered smoke alarms by no later than Jan. 1, 2018, or when there is a change of tenant, test failure or a building

permit is issued.

Hardwired 120-volt electric smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years with new 120-volt smoke alarms with battery backup to ensure proper and timely operation in a fire. Homeowners with hardwired smoke alarms should not replace their devices with battery-powered alarms.

The fire code-compliant smoke alarms can be purchased at most home improvement stores.

For more information on smoke alarms, where and when they are required, and general fire safety tips for homes, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/firesafety or email Timothy Diehl, city fire marshal, at tdiehl@rockvillemd.gov. ✚



DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THESE OTHER GREAT PLACES TO GET UP-TO-THE-MINUTE ROCKVILLE INFORMATION? Follow Croydon Creek Nature Center on Facebook at www.facebook.com/croydoncreek; you can find all the latest about the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre at www.facebook.com/FitzgeraldTheatreRockville; and take a peek inside our sports leagues at www.facebook.com/Rockville.Sports.Leagues. Also, you can follow Rockville 11 (@Rockville11) and Rockville's Recreation and Parks Department (@RockvilleRec) on Twitter.

FACILITIES LEGEND:

- CC** Croydon Creek Nature Ctr., 852 Avery Rd., 240-314-8770.
GM Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8660.
FSF F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8690.
LP Lincoln Park Community Ctr., 357 Frederick Ave., 240-314-8780.
CH Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., 240-314-5000.
SR Rockville Senior Ctr., 1150 Carnation Dr., 240-314-8800.
SFC Rockville Swim and Fitness Ctr., 355 Martins Lane, 240-314-8750.
TF Thomas Farm Community Ctr., 700 Falls Grove Dr., 240-314-8840.
TC Twinbrook Comm. Rec. Ctr., 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy., 240-314-8830.



Rockville offers a variety of classes and programs each season. Find the current recreation guide at www.rockvillemd.gov/guide and sign up through Rock Enroll (rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov).

2 Nov. Seniors Birthday Party Celebrate with lively entertainment and light refreshments. Registration is required by Oct. 26. Party based on availability. Sponsored by Carole Fox and the Golden Ringers Club of Ring House, with entertainment by the Classy Jazz Band. 1:30-3 p.m. Course #56194 FREE for MEM/R/\$6 NR **SR**



4-6,11-13 Rockville Musical Theatre presents "Shrek the Musical" See article on p. 6. Nov. 4, 5, 11 and 12 at 8 p.m. Nov. 6 and 13 at 2 p.m. **FSF**

November Calendar

R = Residents • NR = Nonresidents • MEM = Member • NM = Nonmember



5,12,19 Saturday Farmers Market Farm-fresh fruits and vegetables, bedding plants, cut flowers, preserves, honey, herbs, baked goods and other seasonal produce, through Nov. 19. Accepts WIC and EBT/ SNAP benefits. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Jury parking lot at MD 28 (East Jefferson Street) and Monroe Street. Take Metro's Red Line to the Rockville station or Ride On Bus 47 and 56. Free parking onsite.



6 Glenview Mansion Art Gallery Opening Reception and Sunday Afternoon Concert FREE 1:30-3:30 P.M. See article on p. 6. **GM**

8 Adventure Series Kids in grades 1-5 will go bowling and to a movie on this day off from school. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. **TF**

10 The Annual Young In Heart and Willing 3C Senior Clubs Thanksgiving Luncheon and Trip to Dutch's Daughter. All club members were mailed registration information. **SR**

10 Little Acorns: Turkeys Explore nature with children ages 18-36 months through play-based activities. Includes time outdoors, weather permitting. Adult participation required. Preregistration recommended. Register for course #56750. 10-11 a.m. **CC**



10 Wine and Improv Enjoy a glass of wine or a beer and an evening of fun and games. Dive into the world of improv, led by a theater professional. No experience needed. Must be 21 and over and present an ID. 7-9:30 p.m. **GM**

10 Senior Insurance Options Mark Gottlieb with MAG Insurance Advisory will discuss Medicare products, long-term care options, final expense and legacy options and annuities. 1-3 p.m. Course #58086 FREE **SR**

12 Fall Outdoor Yoga FREE For all ages and levels. Bring a yoga mat or beach towel and water. 9 a.m. Isreal Park, 357 Frederick Ave.

12 Heart of Maryland Chorus presents "Hansel and Gretel – A Modern, Musical Tale" See article on p. 6. 1 p.m. **FSF**

14 It's Over, Finally! Campaign 2016 has finally come to an end. So what was all the fuss about? What was the role of the Electoral College? Now, on to 2020. Register by Nov. 8 unless filled. 10:15-11:15 a.m. Course #56161 \$6MEM/\$9R/\$11NR **SR**

15 Ensuring Self-Determination at the End of Life Rosalind Kipping, from Compassion & Choices Maryland answers the question: What is a good death? Learn about communicating one's wishes and get legal documents to ensure that personal decisions will be known to family and physicians. Register for course #57143. 1-3 p.m. **SR**

15 Rockville Sister City Corporation German Tour Informational Meeting Learn about RSCC's June 2017 tour of Rockville's Sister City, Pinnenberg, Germany. The group will also tour Berlin, Bremerhaven, Leipzig, Lüneburg, Munich, Wittenberg and more. Call 240-314-5029 or email RockvilleSisterCities@gmail.com. 7:30-8:30 p.m. **SR**

16 Preparing for Winter Weather How prepared are you for the winter weather? Need to brush up on checklists and update phone numbers and resources? Come by and learn more about feeling prepared next season. 1-3 p.m. Course #56760 FREE See article on p. 8. **SR**

17 Holiday Cheer, Holiday Fear In this seminar, we discuss and review the array of emotions and expectations many feel during the holidays. The discussion will offer insight surrounding difficulties in coping during emotionally charged times with an emphasis on coping with grief. Presented by Ellen Lebedow, LCSW-C, Jewish Social Service Agency. 1-3 p.m. Course# 56960 FREE **SR**

17 Zumba Party Get a taste for salsa, merengue and Latin dances. Learn moves as you go. Instruction provided. All experience levels welcome. 1:30-3 p.m. **SR**

18 International Night See article on p. 6. 6-8 p.m. **FSF**

19 Nature Tots: Leaves A naturalist helps children ages 2-5 explore nature through crafts, stories and hikes. Adult participation required. Preregistration strongly recommended. Register for course # 56403. 10-11:30 a.m. **CC**

19 Washington Bailaika Society presents "Love and Laughter," featuring Mikhail Svetlov See article on p. 6. 8 p.m. **FSF**

20 Outdoor Science Club: Weather Children ages 6-8 explore will learn about weather through experiments that demonstrate atmospheric science principles. Register for course #56745. 1:30-3 p.m. **CC**

20 "All Things November" 3-4 p.m. See article on p. 6. **FSF**

21 Turkey Trot Walk a mile through the Woodley Gardens neighborhood. Those wishing to burn some extra calories can walk a second mile. Bring a canned food item to support a local food bank or donate to our senior assistance fund. Rain date is Tuesday, Nov. 22. 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. **SR**

29 Toast to The Season Enjoy hand-painting two glass mugs in the holiday design of your choice. Examples will be provided, as well as all paint, supplies and instruction by Cathy Pasquariello. Your creation will make drinking your coffee or hot chocolate that much more special, or give your set of glass mugs as a gift over the holidays. Packets of hot chocolate included... just add marshmallows! Register by Nov. 15. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Course #56184 \$12MEM/\$15R/\$19NR **SR**

International Night

Friday, Nov. 18, 6-8 p.m.
Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre
603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville, MD 20851

Food, entertainment and education from the many different cultures that represent our community.

- Traditional Clothing
- Information Tables
- Special Performances
- Food Samples

For **FREE** tickets, visit Eventbrite: bit.ly/worldrockville

A special moment during event will recognize new U.S. citizens.

Free event brought to you by:
City of Rockville Community Centers
Croydon Creek Nature Center
Rockville Civic Center Park
Public Information and Community Engagement Division.

www.rockvillemd.gov

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTINGS, VISIT WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV

Fire Hydrant Facts

continued from pg. 5...

in case they have a large fire," said Steve Sokol, the city's operations maintenance superintendent. "They can go to one down the road to get the higher flow."

The city is beginning an initiative to paint hydrants to follow National Fire Protection Association guidelines. As part of the city's water main rehabilitation program, the Department of Public Works is phasing in the new colors, which include painting all hydrant barrels yellow to increase their visibility at night. The tops of the hydrants are painted a color that indicates their flow rate. Hydrants with flows less than 500 gallons per minute are red; up to 999 gpm are orange; up to 1,499 gpm are green; and 1,500 gpm and greater are blue.

Most city hydrants are still the old color scheme: red barrels and black tops. More than 80 percent of the city's hydrants have flows greater than 1,500 gpm. Hydrants



with lower flows that have not been repainted have rings to indicate flows of less than 500 gpm (red rings) and from 500 to 1,000 gpm (orange rings).

The city's water main replacement program is replacing low-flow hydrants. By July 2017, 56 of 67 hydrants with flows less than 500 gpm will be upgraded. By July 2020, hydrants whose flows are less than 500 gpm will be upgraded.

What does the city do to keep the hydrants in working order?

Rockville has a systematic flushing program to remove accumulated sediment from the water system. DPW crews open and close water valves and fire hydrants in a certain sequence, producing enough water velocity to scour the pipes. By operating the water main valves, crews can assess their functionality, leading to better system maintenance and operation and better water quality for homes and businesses.

To learn more, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/water and select "Water Main Flushing."

OK, so what's with the poles?

The poles, attached to the hydrants like antennas, serve as markers of where hydrants can be found – and avoided – when buried by heavy snow and allows firefighters to quickly identify their locations.

Residents are asked to remove snow from around hydrants so that fire crews have easier access to the hydrants in an emergency.

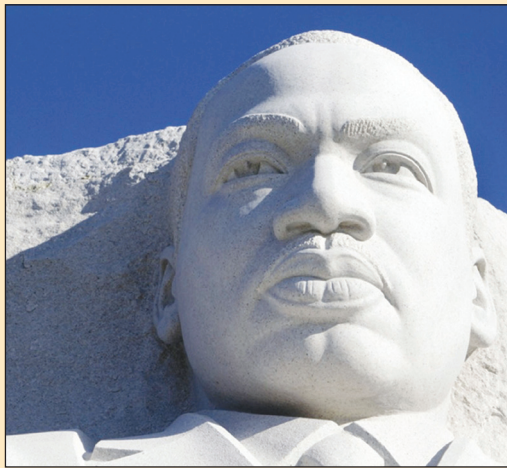


The poles also provide an important marker for snow plow crews.

"Several hydrants were damaged during the [February] 2010 snowstorm because they were not visible under the depth of the [Snowmageddon] snow storm," Sokol said.

The poles work.

"We didn't have damage reported after the [January] 2015 [Snowzilla] blizzard." ❄️



Nominate a Neighbor for a Human Rights Award

The City of Rockville's Human Rights Commission will present two awards as part of the city's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration on Monday, Jan. 16.

The **Martin Luther King Jr. Youth Award** honors a Rockville high school student for advancing the goals and dreams of Dr. King.

The **F. Michael Taff Award** honors an individual, business or organization from Rockville for improving the lives of people with disabilities.

The deadline for nominations is Dec. 7. Find nomination forms and more information at www.rockvillemd.gov/mlk.



Go Local This Thanksgiving with the Rockville Farmers Market

November brings farm-fresh fall produce from regional grower/producers on the final three Saturdays of the Rockville Farmers Market.

The market offers an opportunity to add local flavor to your Thanksgiving feast with fruits and vegetables, cut flowers, preserves, honey, herbs, baked goods and more, including local pumpkins and apples.

It is open from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturdays, through Nov. 19 in the jury parking lot at the corner of Route 28 (E. Jefferson Street) and Monroe Street in Rockville Town Center.

The market participates in the Maryland Market Money Program. The program is intended to be an incentive for participants in federal nutrition benefit programs – the Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP), the Fruit and Vegetable Check Program (FVC) and the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) – to spend their benefits at the farmers market. Participants' benefits are matched up to \$5 per market visit while funds are available. Organizations or individuals wishing to contribute to the Maryland Market Money program can email specialevents@rockvillemd.gov.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/farmers for more information, including a list of participating vendors. For more information, call 240-314-8620.



**LEARN MORE ABOUT
THE CITY ON ROCKVILLE 11**
www.youtube.com/cityofrockville

Rockville Needs Volunteers to Shovel Snow for Seniors

Rockville is a city of neighborhoods with a tradition of looking out for one another, and never is that more true than when we're helping neighbors who may not be able to help themselves as well as they once did.

That's why each winter the Rockville Senior Center looks for ways to help older Rockville residents with snow removal. If you're handy with a shovel and don't mind digging out an extra driveway or

clearing off a walkway or two, you can sign up and volunteer for the program.

The senior center's home maintenance coordinator organizes the program and can connect you with neighbors in need near your home.

To sign up to volunteer or to request snow-shoveling assistance, call 240-314-8819 or call the Senior Center Support Services office at 240-314-8810. To sign up for assistance or volunteer online,

visit www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorsnowremoval.

For more information about the Rockville Senior Services, call 240-314-8800 or email seniorcenter@rockvillemd.gov.

When winter weather strikes, turn to the city's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/winterweather. Closure and snow emergency information is available at www.rockvillemd.gov/weather, and through email notices, social

media, and by signing up for Alert Rockville notifications. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/connections.

If you're 60 or older and would like to brush up on your winter weather checklist, the senior center is holding a free seminar, "Preparing for Winter Weather," 1-3 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 16. (Sign up through Rock Enroll, rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov, course #56760). ❖

Rockville Volunteer Fire Department Thanks City for New Chase Car

First Responders and Car Visit City Hall

Members of the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department visited City Hall before the Oct. 10 Mayor and Council meeting to thank the City of Rockville for supporting the department's purchase of a new advanced life support chase car.

The Mayor and Council awarded RVFD a \$57,000 grant in the city's budget for Fiscal Year 2016, which ended June 30.

The car, a 2016 Chevy Tahoe known as ALS703, will be staffed around the clock with RVFD volunteer and career paramedics. It will supplement existing ALS service, which is provided with a paramedic transport unit (Medic 703) and the paramedic-staffed

engine. The unit will carry a cardiac monitor/defibrillator, ALS medications, a Lucas CPR device and airway management equipment.

"It will directly affect every resident and visitor to the city because it will allow us to better deploy our paramedics, both volunteer and career, to meet the community's needs," said RVFD President Eric N. Bernard.

The chase car makes RVFD one of the first de-



Rockville Volunteer Fire Department members joined the Mayor and Council in front of City Hall on Oct. 10 to thank the City of Rockville for supporting the department's purchase of a new advanced life support (ALS) chase car.

partments in the county to deploy a new service model, which places paramedics on rapid response vehicles and not just ambulances, which are still staffed around the clock by emergency medical technicians. "The paramedic is not tied to the cot," Bernard said.

Learn more about the vehicle at <http://rvfd.org/als-chase-car-placed->

service/ and in the "Rock 11 Now" report at www.rockvillemd.gov/youtube. Search "RVFD."

RVFD, which has more than 200 members and four stations, provides fire protection to Rockville. The city's ongoing support of RVFD includes \$10,000 a year that the city reimburses the department for its water bill. ❖

Rockville Ranks Second in State for LGBT Support and Inclusivity

continued from pg. 1...

come from every corner of the world, every walk of life, every measure of the word 'diversity.' This score reflects what I've always said: Every citizen, every LGBT citizen — every person no matter their background — are welcome and will find a home in our city."

Among factors leading to the improved ranking was this year's appointment of two liaisons to the LGBT community, one for the Rockville City Police Department (Sgt. Jan Seilhamer) and one in the City Manager's Office (Janet Kelly); health care options specifically for LGBT employees; events that highlighted and supported LGBT awareness

for the city's youth and elderly; and public support from the Mayor and Council.

The Mayor and Council have attended several events to raise awareness for organizations that support the LGBT community, including a July performance of "Rent" at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre that collected toiletries and other critically needed supplies for homeless

LGBT youth living in shelters countywide.

The city is committed to improving its MEI scores further, and is actively discussing updating a policy for companies contracting with the city to prevent discrimination based on gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation or personal appearance.

The report can be found at www.hrc.org/mei. ❖



Get Into It

Mayor
BRIDGET DONNELL NEWTON
Councilmembers
BERYL L. FEINBERG
VIRGINIA D. ONLEY
JULIE PALAKOVICH CARR
MARK PIERZCHALA

Acting City Manager: Craig L. Simoneau
Deputy City Manager: Jennifer Kimball
Director of Communication: Marylou Berg
Public Information Specialists: Cliff Cumber, Sean Sedam
Graphics and Printing: Sylvia England, Eric Ferrell, Nikita Jones, Leon Porter, Betsy Robbins, Lori Russler
Rockville 11: Hagop Balekjian, Kathy Dantzer, Jacob McLernon, Tony Plaia

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BACK IN THE DAY — From the February 1970 City of Rockville Newsletter, citizen participation in Rockville government was blown out across a two-page spread that featured nine residents serving on a variety of committees and commissions. Some of the personalities giving their views on a process that "can meaningfully tie programs to people" were Carol Kelly, a psychiatric social worker, Marian Gaffey, a "housewife," Nathaniel Woodrick, an IBM executive, and Audrey Washington, "housewife." (Really.)